



Press Release

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**CONGRESSMAN THOMPSON SELECTS SUMMER INTERN:
SHAW NATIVE GOES TO d.c.**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, United States Congressman Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) is pleased to announce that Shirlethia Franklin has been chosen to serve as an intern for the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) in his Washington, D.C. office.

Congressman Thompson state, "I am elated to have Shirlethia as an intern and look forward to providing a worthwhile experience for her here in Washington, D.C. She is a very strong-willed and determined young lady. This opportunity will help shape her as a leader and provide a gateway to her future political career."

Franklin is the proud 21-year-old daughter of Ms. Shirley Franklin of Shaw, MS. She is a senior English/Pre-Law major at Tougaloo College, and the newly elected President of the Student Government Association. She is an active member of the Rueben V. Anderson Pre-Law Society, Tougaloo College Gospel Choir, former secretary of the Tougaloo College Chapter of the NAACP, and Sergeant-At-Arms of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, INC. She is also a Presidential Scholar with a current grade point average of 3.97. After graduating from Tougaloo, Franklin plans to attend Howard University School of Law.

"This experience on Capitol Hill will definitely be one of the most rewarding experiences of my life," says Franklin. "Working for Congressman Thompson and his wonderful staff will not only allow me the opportunity to enhance my leadership and political skills, but it will also enable me to develop as a stronger individual."

Franklin's strong interest in the American political system and her desire to one day become a very prominent political figure inspired her to apply for the CBCF Internship position. Serving as an advocate for change, Franklin aspires to become the Mayor of the City of Shaw and the first African-American and female Governor of the State of Mississippi. She later plans to seek the position of the first African-American and female President of the United States of America.

